

### AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Canceled)
2. (Currently amended) A method for reducing sepsis-associated lethality in a mammal that develops sepsis, the method comprising the step of:
  - (a) administering ~~to a mammal at risk of sepsis-associated lethality~~ an amount of isolated or purified tissue cytotoxic factor – II (TCF-II) effective to reduce sepsis-associated lethality, wherein TCF-II is administered before onset of sepsis in the mammal.
3. (Previously presented) The method of claim 2, wherein the TCF-II is administered intravenously, intramuscularly or subcutaneously.
4. (Previously presented) The method of claim 2, wherein the TCF-II is produced recombinantly.
5. (Previously presented) The method of claim 2, comprising the additional step, prior to step (a), of

purifying an amount of TCF-II effective to treat sepsis.
- 6-7. (Canceled)
8. (Previously presented) The method of claim 2, wherein the TCF-II is administered to the mammal in conjunction with a pH conditioner, buffer or stabilizer.

9. (Previously presented) The method of claim 2, wherein the amount of TCF-II is from about 0.6 mg to about 600 mg of TCF-II.

10. (Previously presented) The method of claim 9, wherein the amount of TCF-II is from about 6 mg to about 60 mg of TCF-II.

11-12. (Canceled)

13. (Currently amended) A method for reducing lipopolysaccharide (LPS)-induced bacterial translocation in the intestine in a mammal exposed to a trigger for LPS-induced bacterial translocation, the method comprising the step of:

(a) ~~administering to a mammal at risk of LPS-induced bacterial translocation in the intestine~~ an amount of isolated or purified tissue cytotoxic factor – II (TCF-II) effective to reduce LPS-induced bacterial translocation, wherein TCF-II is administered after exposure of the mammal to the trigger for LPS-induced bacterial translocation.

14. (Previously presented) The method of claim 13, wherein the TCF-II is administered intravenously, intramuscularly or subcutaneously.

15. (Previously presented) The method of claim 13, wherein the TCF-II is produced recombinantly.

16. (Previously presented) The method of claim 13, comprising the additional step, prior to step (a), of

purifying an amount of TCF-II effective to prevent sepsis.

17-18. (Canceled)

19. (Previously presented) The method of claim 13, wherein the TCF-II is administered to the mammal in conjunction with a pH conditioner, buffer or stabilizer.
20. (Previously presented) The method of claim 13, wherein the amount of TCF-II is from about 0.6 mg to about 600 mg of TCF-II.
21. (Previously presented) The method of claim 20, wherein the amount of TCF-II is from about 6 mg to about 60 mg of TCF-II.
- 22-23. (Canceled)
24. (New) A method for reducing sepsis-associated lethality in a mammal exposed to a trigger for sepsis, the method comprising the step of:
- (a) administering an amount of isolated or purified tissue cytotoxic factor – II (TCF-II) effective to reduce sepsis-associated lethality, wherein TCF-II is administered prior to exposure of the mammal to the trigger for sepsis.
25. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein the TCF-II is administered within 48 hours of exposure of the mammal to the trigger for sepsis.
26. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein the trigger is surgery.
27. (New) The method of claim 24, further comprising administering TCF-II at the time of exposure of the mammal to the trigger for sepsis.

28. (New) A method for reducing lipopolysaccharide (LPS)-induced bacterial translocation in the intestine in a mammal exposed to a trigger for LPS-induced bacterial translocation, the method comprising the step of:

(a) administering an amount of isolated or purified tissue cytotoxic factor - II (TCF-II) effective to reduce LPS-induced bacterial translocation, wherein TCF-II is administered prior to exposure of the mammal to the trigger for LPS-induced bacterial translocation.

29. (New) The method of claim 28, wherein the TCF-II is administered within 30 hours of exposure of the mammal to the trigger for LPS-induced bacterial translocation in the intestine.

30. (New) The method of claim 28, further comprising administering TCF-II after exposure of the mammal to the trigger for sepsis.

31. (New) A method for reducing sepsis-associated lethality in a surgery patient, the method comprising the step of:

(a) administering to a surgery patient an amount of isolated or purified tissue cytotoxic factor - II (TCF-II) effective to reduce sepsis-associated lethality.

32. (New) The method of claim 31, wherein the TCF-II is administered prior to surgery.

33. (New) The method of claim 31, wherein the TCF-II is administered at the time of surgery.

34. (New) The method of claim 2, further comprising administering TCF-II to the mammal at the time of sepsis.

35. (New) The method of claim 2, wherein the TCF-II is administered within 48 hours of sepsis.